

Antonia Hover

From: Angie Calhoun
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 3:57 PM
To: Consumer Correspondence
Cc: Diane Hood
Subject: FW: To CLK Docket 20210015-EI

Consumer correspondence for docket 20210015.

Angela Calhoun

From: Clinton Burrow <clintburrow0730@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 09, 2021 2:17 PM
To: Consumer Contact <Contact@PSC.STATE.FL.US>
Subject: re: Dockets: 20210015-EI and 20210016-EI

I recently became aware that the two largest electric utilities in Florida had rate cases approved that included a new provision for minimum billing for their residential and small commercial customers. This is a direct attack on solar net metering for those customers which the Florida utilities have consistently worked against. This is certainly not the time to put roadblocks in the way of more customers adding solar pv and penalizing customers that have already added solar to their rooftops and have designed those systems to utilize net metering as it existed when they installed those systems. Distribution level generation is a direct benefit to the distribution and transmission grid since any excess power generated is used locally and puts less strain on the grid at times of high electrical demand.

This also is just another ruse for the utilities to collect extra revenue from customers that are supplying a direct benefit to the system. Numerous studies around the country show that the true value of local solar generation to the grid is significantly higher than the benefit it receives from net metering⁽¹⁾. Florida for sure where climate change is a significant issue now and in the future should not be discouraging getting our energy from the sun rather than from fossil fuels. The large solar farms that the utilities are building certainly have a place in producing energy but they have the disadvantage (from a system loss perspective) of being connected to the transmission grid, not to the distribution system where the energy actually is consumed. That is why we need to design electrical rate structures that promote, not discourage, distribution level customer owned solar generation. It just makes no logical sense to require customers to pay in their rates for these large solar projects and not have programs that actually encourage those same customers to build solar on their own property where the energy will be used.

So where do we go from here? It should be the first priority of the Florida PSC to work with an independent engineering firm or a group of the Florida Universities to study what the true value of distribution connected solar generation is in Florida. Once this is completed the utility tariffs need to be redesigned so that solar generation is compensated at its true value to the power system and to society. This is a new era where we now have the technical capability to actually generate and store power cost effectively at the distribution level where it is used and we can no longer pretend that the only logical place to build and install generation and storage is at the transmission level. We do need electric utilities to build and operate a robust transmission and distribution grid in this new regime and they need to be compensated correctly for that service, but we also need to have as much generation and storage as possible at the distribution level where much of the power is ultimately consumed. This is the way to build the most robust and efficient system so we can more readily meet the climate change issues that we must solve.

1. [Review of Recent Cost-Benefit Studies Related to Net Metering and Distributed Solar](#)

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